UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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10/517,182	12/07/2004	Hajime Maekawa	MAT-8637US	4367

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 February 2010*.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *12-17 and 21-28* is/are pending in the application.
     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) *12-17 and 21-28* is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
     a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
         1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
         2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
         3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/23/2010*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on

2/23/2010 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2.   In the amendment filed on 2/23/2010, claims 12, 14, and 21 have been

amended. Claim 18 has been cancelled. Claim 28 has been added. The currently

pending claims considered below are Claims 12-17 and 21-28.

Information Disclosure Statement

3.   Initialed and dated copy of Applicant's IDS form 1449, filed 1/12/2010, is attached

to the instant Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 12-17 and 21-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

anticipated by Wang (US Patent 7,349,967 B2, cited in the IDS filed 9/16/2008) in view

of Yi (US Patent 6,813,715 B2)

        As per claim 12, Wang teaches "An electronic device configured to be used with

an access device and a server device having operation screen information," (see

Abstract)

        "comprising: an address providing part which provides and registers electronic

device access information to the server device at an arbitrary timing so that the

electronic device access information stored in an access information management part

of the server is updated to the latest;" (column 9 lines 40-67, column 18 line 40 –

column 19 line 60, column 20 line 23 – column 21 line 28, column 22 lines 21-51,

wherein devices contain an IP address that can be updated after a collision detection or

a reset of the device, automatically updating the address stored in a server directory for

the device)

        "an operation screen information storage part which stores operation screen

information that is information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic

device and another electronic device;" (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 –

column 46 line 15, wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server and a

remote user interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic

devices in a home network)

"an operation information transmission part which transmits the operation

information at a request of the access device" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15,

column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an

accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user) "the access device having a

server identifier of the server device stored in advance and requesting a locator of the

electronic device from the server device using the server identifier" (column 40 line 65 –

column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35, wherein the remote device communicates

with a manufacturer server acting as a home portal to determine the address of a

gateway in a home network)

"a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device

operation information from the access device;" (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a

gateway device in a home network accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a

remote device)

"and a device drive part which operates based on the device operation

information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted,"

(column 49 line 14 – column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control

and operate devices in a home network)

"wherein the electronic device access information of the electronic device

includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address." (column 17 line

62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 –

column 22 line 52, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, wherein the dynamic IP

address for devices can be utilized and resolved by the home portal in a server to handle device addressing and port forwarding of the dynamic IP address)

"wherein the access device is permitted to access the electronic device when at least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in the server device." (column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line 67, wherein a user on a remote device is permitted to access devices in a home network after user login and password is entered, and address information of the remote device and user information is mapped for access to the devices in the home network)

Wang does not specifically teach that the server device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device, transmitting the electronic device access information of the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device.

Yi teaches the server device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device, transmitting the electronic device access information of the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device from the server device by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device (Figure 6, column 4 lines 11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5 line 60 – column 6 line 14, wherein a home portal server contains an information management

database and an authentication server unit that monitors the communication in a home

network and sends a remote apparatus information about a home gateway, including an

IP identifier, which allows the home gateway and remote apparatus to communicate

directly with each other after the address is received, without going through the home

portal server).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to combine Wang's method of accessing a network of devices

through an access device and a server device with Yi's ability for a server to transmit to

a remote apparatus utilized by a client information about a home gateway in a home

networking system for direct communication between the remote apparatus and the

home gateway. This provides the user with the ability to directly access a home device

through a remote apparatus, by retrieving the address stored in a server and utilizing

the address for direct device access through the home gateway. The motivation for

doing so would be to securely provide a remote user with the private IP address of

devices in a home network (column 1 lines 22-40).

As per claim 13, Wang teaches "a device operation information setting part

which stores the device operation information accepted by the device operation

information reception part," (column 49 lines 14-45) "wherein the device drive part

operates based on the device operation information stored by the device operation

information setting part." (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

As per claim 14, Wang teaches "An information processing method to be used

in an electronic device configured to be used with an access device and a server

device," (see Abstract)

"comprising: an address providing part which provides and registers electronic

device access information to the server device at an arbitrary timing so that the

electronic device access information stored in an access information management part

of the server is updated to the latest;" (column 9 lines 40-67, column 18 line 40 –

column 19 line 60, column 20 line 23 – column 21 line 28, column 22 lines 21-51,

wherein devices contain an IP address that can be updated after a collision detection or

a reset of the device, automatically updating the address stored in a server directory for

the device)

"an operation information transmission step of transmitting operation information

that is information to operation of one of the electronic device, at a request;" (column 45

line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a

gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user)

"a server identification storing step of storing a server identifier of the server

device, in the access device;" (column 45 lines 44 – column 46 line 44, column 47 lines

23-44, wherein a remote access device communicates with a determined home portal to

communicate with a gateway device of the home network)

"a locator requesting step of requesting the electronic device access information

of the electronic device from the server device identified by using the server identifier

stored in the access device in advance;" (column 45 lines 43-57, column 46 lines 16-35,

column 47 lines 23-44, wherein a remote access devices access transmits requests to a

home portal via secure communication)

"the locator requesting step including, verify that the access device is permitted

to access the electronic device," (column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a login page is utilized

by a gateway device to verify user permission)

"including matching information from the access device with at least two different

identifiers stored in the server device to generate a matching result" (column 45 line 57

– column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line 67,

wherein a user on a remote device is permitted to access devices in a home network

after user login and password is entered, and address information of the remote device

and user information is mapped for access to the devices in the home network)

"a device operation information reception step of accepting device operation

information from the access device;" (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a gateway device

in a home network accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a remote device)

"and a device drive step of operating based on the device operation information

accepted at the device operation information reception step." (column 49 line 14 –

column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control and operate devices

in a home network)

Wang does not specifically teach transmitting, by the server device the electronic

device access information of the electronic device after the access device is verified to

have access to the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted

after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server by

the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device.

Yi teaches transmitting, by the server device the electronic device access

information of the electronic device after the access device is verified to have access to

the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access

device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server by the electronic

device to the access device while bypassing the server device (Figure 6, column 4 lines

11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5 line 60 – column 6 line 14, wherein a home

portal server contains an information management database and an authentication

server unit that monitors the communication in a home network and sends a remote

apparatus information about a home gateway, including an IP identifier, which allows

the home gateway and remote apparatus to communicate directly with each other after

the address is received, without going through the home portal server).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to combine Wang's method of accessing a network of devices

through an access device and a server device with Yi's ability for a server to transmit to

a remote apparatus utilized by a client information about a home gateway in a home

networking system for direct communication between the remote apparatus and the

home gateway. This provides the user with the ability to directly access a home device

through a remote apparatus, by retrieving the address stored in a server and utilizing

the address for direct device access through the home gateway. The motivation for

doing so would be to securely provide a remote user with the private IP address of

devices in a home network (column 1 lines 22-40).

As per claim 15, <u>Wang</u> teaches "a device operation information setting step of

storing the device operation information accepted at the device operation information

reception step," (column 49 lines 14-45)   "wherein an operation is carried out based on

the device operation information stored at the device operation information setting step,

at the device drive step." (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

As per claim 16, <u>Wang</u> teaches "the operation information storage part includes

an operation screen storage part which stores operation screen information to configure

a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device;"

(column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15)

"the operation information transmission part includes the operation screen

information transmission part which transmits the operation screen information at the

request of the access device, the operation screen information is transmitted after the

access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device

from the server device;" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

"the device operation information reception part includes a device operation

screen information reception part which accepts device operation screen information;

and the device drive part operates based on the device operation information that the

device operation screen information reception part has accepted." (column 40 line 65 –

column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35

As per claim 17, <u>Wang</u> teaches "the operation information transmission step

includes transmitting operation screen information that is information to configure a

screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device, at the

request." (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

As per claim 21, <u>Wang</u> teaches "An information processing system" (see

Abstract)

"comprising: an electronic device;" (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15,

column 46 lines 36-43, gateway device)

"an access device capable of accessing the electronic device via a connection to

a communication network, the access device operable to request electronic device

access information of the electronic device from a server device identified by using a

server identifier of the server device, the access device including a server device

identifier storage part operable to store the server identifier of the server device,"

(Figure 22 reference 1052, column 45 lines 27-57, column 46 lines 16-35, column 47

lines 65 - column 48 line 14, wherein a remote user utilizing a remote access device is

identified and accesses the home network)

"wherein the electronic device includes: an address providing part which provides

and registers electronic device access information to the server device at an arbitrary

timing so that the electronic device access information stored in an access information

management part of the server is updated to the latest;" (column 9 lines 40-67, column

18 line 40 – column 19 line 60, column 20 line 23 – column 21 line 28, column 22 lines

21-51, wherein devices contain an IP address that can be updated after a collision

detection or a reset of the device, automatically updating the address stored in a server

directory for the device)

"an operation information storage part operable to store operation information

including information to configure operation of the electronic device or another

electronic device;" (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15,

wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server and a remote user

interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic devices in a home

network)

"and an operation information transmission part operable to transmit the

operation information at a request of the access device;" (column 45 line 57 - column 46

line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent

to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user)

"wherein the electronic device access information of the electronic device

includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address." (column 17 line

62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 –

column 22 line 52, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, wherein the dynamic IP

address for devices can be utilized and resolved by the home portal in a server to

handle device addressing and port forwarding of the dynamic IP address)

"wherein the access device is permitted to access the electronic device when at

least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in the server device." (column 45

line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line

67, wherein a user on a remote device is permitted to access devices in a home

network after user login and password is entered, and address information of the

remote device and user information is mapped for access to the devices in the home

network)

Wang does not specifically teach wherein the electronic device access

information of the electronic device is transmitted by the server device responsive to the

access device being permitted to access the electronic device such that the operation

information is transmitted by the operation information transmission part after the

access device receives the electronic device access information of the electronic device

form the server device by the electronic device to the access device while bypassing the

server device.

Yi teaches the electronic device access information of the electronic device is

transmitted by the server device responsive to the access device being permitted to

access the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted by the

operation information transmission part after the access device receives the electronic

device access information of the electronic device form the server device by the

electronic device to the access device while bypassing the server device (Figure 6,

column 4 lines 11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5 line 60 – column 6 line 14,

wherein a home portal server contains an information management database and an

authentication server unit that monitors the communication in a home network and

sends a remote apparatus information about a home gateway, including an IP identifier,

which allows the home gateway and remote apparatus to communicate directly with each other after the address is received, without going through the home portal server).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wang's method of accessing a network of devices through an access device and a server device with Yi's ability for a server to transmit to a remote apparatus utilized by a client information about a home gateway in a home networking system for direct communication between the remote apparatus and the home gateway. This provides the user with the ability to directly access a home device through a remote apparatus, by retrieving the address stored in a server and utilizing the address for direct device access through the home gateway. The motivation for doing so would be to securely provide a remote user with the private IP address of devices in a home network (column 1 lines 22-40).

As per claim 22, Wang teaches "the electronic device access information of the electronic device further includes a port number" (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52, column 26 lines 33-67, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

As per claim 23, Wang teaches "the electronic device access information of the electronic device further includes a port number" (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line 38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52, column 26 lines 33-67, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

As per claim 24, Wang teaches "the electronic device access information of the electronic device further includes a port number" (column 17 line 62 – column 18 line

38, column 18 line 40 – column 19 line 67, column 21 line 57 – column 22 line 52,

column 26 lines 33-67, column 40 line 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64)

   As per claim 25, <u>Wang</u> teaches the operation information storage part includes

an operation screen information storage part which stores operation screen information

to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic

device; (column 47 lines 13-44, column 48 lines 43-56

   the operation information transmission part transmits the operation screen

information to the access device after the access device receives the electronic device

access information of the electronic device from the server device; (column 47 lines 13-

44, column 48 lines 43-56)

   the device operation information reception part includes a device operation

screen information reception part which accepts device operation screen information

transmitted from the access device (column 49 lines 46—column 50 line 14)

   and the device drive part operates based on the device operation information that

the device operation screen information reception part has accepted (column 49 lines

46—column 50 line 14)

   As per claim 26, Wang and Yi are disclosed as per claim 14 above. <u>Yi</u>

additionally teaches "the operation information transmission step includes transmitting

operation screen information that is information to configure a screen for operating one

of the electronic device and another electronic device to the access device while

bypassing the server device." (column 4 lines 11-61, column 5 lines 21-42, column 5

line 60 – column 6 line 14)

As per claim 27, <u>Wang</u> teaches "the operation information storage part includes

an operation screen information storage part which stores operation screen information

to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic

device;" (column 47 lines 13-44, column 48 lines 43-56

the operation information transmission part transmits the operation screen

information to the access after the access device receives the electronic device access

information of the electronic device from the server device and a request has been

received from the access device; (column 47 lines 13-44, column 48 lines 43-56)

and the electronic device further includes a device operation information

reception part including a device operation screen information reception part which

accepts device operation screen information transmitted from the access device to the

server device (column 49 lines 46—column 50 line 14).

As per claim 28, <u>Wang</u> teaches "a first one of the at least two different identifiers

includes a first identifier indicating the access device and a second one of the at least

two different identifiers includes a second identifier, different from the first identifier,

indicating a user of the access device." (column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column

48 lines 26-42)

Response to Arguments

6.   Applicant's arguments, see page 8, filed 2/23/2010, with respect to the rejection

under 35 USC 103(a) have been fully considered but are moot in view of new grounds

of rejection.

   a.   Examiner is entitled to give claim limitations their broadest reasonable

interpretation in light of the specification. See MPEP 2111 [R-I]

Interpretation of Claims-Broadest Reasonable Interpretation

During patent examination, the pending claims must be 'given the broadest

reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification.' Applicant always has

the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution and broad interpretation

by the examiner reduces the possibility that the claim, once issued, will be

interpreted more broadly than is justified. In re Prater, 162 USPQ 541,550-51

(CCPA 1969).

   b.   Applicant's argument is stated as Wang in view of Yi does not teach

"wherein the access device is permitted to access the electronic device when at

least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in the server device."

        In regards to the argument, Examiner respectfully disagrees. Wang, as

summarized in column 3 lines 20-49 discloses a method for providing a user

interface to a remote access device to communicate with a home network

containing various devices. As taught in column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35,

column 48 lines 26-42, column 52 line 46 – column 53 line 67, Wang teaches

that to access devices in a home network, a user on a remote device must log

into the gateway and provide user login and password information. Once a user

is logged in, and address information for the remote device is read by the

gateway device, interpreted by the Examiner as the server device, address

mapping is then provided to generate address information for devices, permitting

the user access to devices. As disclosed in column 47 lines 45-64, digital

certificates are provided to remote devices for security, wherein each device able

to access the home network is identified in the digital certificate, the digital

certificate containing address information for the remote device as verified by a

home portal. As interpreted by the Examiner, Wang's ability to utilize both user

information, provided in login and password prompt, and digital certificates for

authorized remote devices teaches permitting access to electronic devices when

the user information is verified and a digital certificate is provided. Therefore,

Wang in view of Yi teaches wherein the access device is permitted to access the

electronic device when at least two different identifiers match identifiers stored in

the server device.

c.   As to the argument that Wang does not teach newly added dependent

claim 28, Examiner respectfully disagrees. As disclosed in the above rejection,

Wang, in column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 26-42, teaches

that user login information and remote device address information are utilized

when verifying that a user is permitted access to devices in a home network. As

further summarized in column 48 lines 48-67, a user on a remote devices utilizes

user information to log in and remote device address to access devices through

the gateway device. Therefore, Wang teaches a first one of the at least two

different identifiers includes a first identifier indicating the access device and a

second one of the at least two different identifiers includes a second identifier,

different from the first identifier, indicating a user of the access device.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

Keyes et al. (US Publication 2003/0041135 A1)

Wendorf et al. (US Patent 7,257,821 B2)

Saint-Hilaire et al. (US Patent 7,299,304 B2)

Krusche et al. (US Patent 7,565,626 B2)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to DANGELINO N. GORTAYO whose telephone number is

(571)272-7204. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)272-3642. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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/Dangelino N Gortayo/   /Tim T. Vo/
Examiner, Art Unit 2168   Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
                                                         Unit 2168

Dangelino N. Gortayo   Tim T. Vo
Examiner   SPE